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FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
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INFO RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY 7953
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 6958
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 2546
RUEHKF/AMCONSUL KARACHI PRIORITY 8508
RUEHLH/AMCONSUL LAHORE PRIORITY 4444
RUEHPW/AMCONSUL PESHAWAR PRIORITY 3074
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY
RUMICEA/USCENTCOM INTEL CEN MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY
RHWSMRC/USCINCCENT MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
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Friday, 28 December 2007, 16:40
S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 03 ISLAMABAD 005388

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EO 12958 DECL: 12/28/2017
TAGS PGOV, PREL, PTER, PINR, SHUM, PK, PINS
SUBJECT: PAKISTAN'S NEXT PRIME MINISTER?
Classified By: Anne W. Patterson, for reasons 1.4(b)(d).
1. (S/NF) The Pakistan Muslim League has unofficially selected former Punjab Chief Minister and current head of the party's Punjab chapter, Ch
2. (S/NF) Elahi first came to prominence along with his older cousin and brother-in-law Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain as supporters of center-right
3. (S/NF) The Chaudhrys' major rift with the Sharifs came following the 1997 elections. Nawaz Sharif had ostensibly promised Ch. Pervaiz and C
4. (S/NF) The decision to remain with the PML-N in 1997, despite differences with the Sharifs, was largely due to the Chaudhrys' distaste for
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5. (S/NF) Following the 1999 coup both Ch. Pervaiz and Ch. Shujaat were detained by the National Accountability Bureau on corruption charges r
SIPDIS political ally (they have since fallen out over differences relating to the award of PML tickets in 2002 and 2005, and Musharraf's negot
6. (S/NF) As a reward for his political service, Ch. Pervaiz was appointed as Punjab Chief Minister following the 2002 national elections -- t
7. XXXXXXXXXXXX
8. (S/NF) Elahi has been a strong supporter of President Musharraf's enlightened moderation agenda and favors swift, decisive law enforcement
9. (S/NF) At the same time, Elahi believes that the government must make a clear distinction between terrorists, and conservative religious fi
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religious-reform agenda.
10. (S/NF) Elahi is a close advisor of President Musharraf, and is regularly consulted by him on political strategy. This advice, however, is
11. (S/NF) Elahi was born in 1945 and educated at Lahore's Forman Christian College and Watford College of Technology in London. He is married
PATTERSON